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PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the remaining claims as follows, substituting any amended claim(s) for the corresponding pending claim(s):

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1. (amended) For use in a CDMA wireless network comprising a plurality of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations located in a coverage area of said CDMA wireless network, a partitioned selection and distribution unit (SDU) comprising:

a first controller capable of performing all radio dependent functions for calls involving said selection and distribution unit, wherein said radio dependent functions are related to a transfer of wireless traffic between said plurality of base stations and said plurality of mobile stations; and

a second controller disposed apart from said first controller and capable of performing all radio independent functions for said calls involving said selection and distribution unit, wherein said radio independent functions are related to a transfer of at least one of voice traffic, data traffic, and signaling traffic between said CDMA wireless network and a wired network coupled to said CDMA wireless network.

1 ~~2. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1~~
2 wherein said radio dependent functions comprise selection of preferred ones of incoming
3 wireless traffic frames received from said plurality of base stations.

1 3. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1
2 wherein said radio dependent functions comprise controlling a transmission power of a selected
3 one of said plurality of mobile stations.

1 4. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1
2 wherein said radio independent functions comprise a decompression of voice traffic from a first
3 bit rate to a second bit rate.

1 5. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 4
2 wherein said decompression is performed by a vocoder.

1 ~~6. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1~~
2 wherein said radio independent functions comprise a transcoding of circuit data from a first bit
3 rate to a second bit rate.

1 7. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1
2 wherein said radio independent functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from
3 said base stations to data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled
4 to said CDMA wireless network.

AI 1 8. (unchanged) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 1
2 wherein said first controller is disposed in one of said plurality of base stations and said second
3 controller is disposed in a mobile switching center (MSC) associated with said CDMA wireless
4 network.

1 9. (amended) A CDMA wireless network capable of communicating with a plurality of
2 mobile stations located in a coverage area of said CDMA wireless network, said CDMA
3 wireless network comprising;

4 a plurality of base stations capable of wirelessly communicating with said
5 plurality of mobile stations, at least one of said plurality of base stations comprising a first
6 controller capable of performing all radio dependent functions for calls involving said plurality
7 of mobile stations, wherein said radio dependent functions are related to a transfer of call traffic
8 between said plurality of base stations and said plurality of mobile stations; and

9 a mobile switching center capable of transferring said call traffic between said
10 plurality of base stations and a wired network coupled to said CDMA wireless network, said
11 mobile switching center comprising a second controller capable of performing all radio
12 independent functions for said calls involving said plurality of mobile stations, wherein said
13 radio independent functions are related to a transfer of at least one of voice traffic, data traffic,
14 and signaling traffic between said CDMA wireless network and said wired network.

1 10. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
2 radio dependent functions comprise selection of preferred ones of incoming wireless traffic
3 frames received from said plurality of base stations.

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11. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
radio dependent functions comprise controlling a transmission power of a selected one of said
plurality of mobile stations.

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12. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
radio independent functions comprise a decompression of voice traffic from a first bit rate to
a second bit rate.

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13. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 12 wherein said
decompression is performed by a vocoder.

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14. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
radio independent functions comprise a transeoding of circuit data from a first bit rate to a
second bit rate.

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15. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
radio independent functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from said base
stations to data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled to said
CDMA wireless network.

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16. (unchanged) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 9 wherein said
signaling traffic comprises user-generated commands received from a selected one of said
plurality of mobile stations.

1 ~~17. (amended) A method of operating a CDMA wireless network comprising a plurality~~
2 of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations located in a
3 coverage area of the CDMA wireless network, the method comprising the steps of:

4 receiving in at least one base station at least one of voice traffic, data traffic, and
5 signaling traffic transmitted by a selected one of the plurality of mobile stations;

6 performing in the at least one base station all radio dependent functions for
7 handling said at least one of voice traffic, data traffic, and signaling traffic, wherein the radio
8 dependent functions are related to a transfer of wireless traffic between the at least one base
9 station and the selected mobile station; and

10 performing all radio independent functions for said handling of said at least one
11 of voice traffic, data traffic, and signaling traffic in a mobile switching station of the CDMA
12 wireless network, wherein the radio independent functions are related to a transfer of at least
13 one of the at least one of voice traffic, data traffic, and signaling traffic between the CDMA
14 wireless network and a wired network coupled to the CDMA wireless network.

1 ~~18. (unchanged) The method set forth in Claim 17 wherein the radio dependent~~
2 functions comprise at least one of selection of preferred ones of incoming wireless traffic
3 frames received from the plurality of base stations and controlling a transmission power of a
4 selected one of the plurality of mobile stations.

1 19. (unchanged) The method set forth in Claim 17 wherein the radio independent
2 functions comprise at least one of decompressing voice traffic from a first bit rate to a second
3 bit rate and transcoding circuit data from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

1 20. (unchanged) The method set forth in Claim 17 wherein the radio independent
2 functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from the plurality of base stations to
3 data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled to the CDMA
4 ~~wireless network station.~~